

§ 679.31 CDQ reserves

§ 679.31 CDQ reserves.

Portions of the CDQ and PSQ reserves for each subarea or district may be allocated for the exclusive use of CDQ groups in accordance with CDPs approved by the Governor in consultation with the Council and approved by NMFS. NMFS will allocate no more than 33 percent of each CDQ reserve to any one group with an approved CDP.

(a) Pollock CDQ reserve.

(1) Bering Sea.

In the annual harvest specifications required by § 679.20(c), 10 percent of the Bering Sea subarea pollock TAC will be allocated to a CDQ reserve.

(2) Aleutian Islands Subarea and Bogoslof District.

In the annual harvest specifications required by § 679.20(c), 10 percent of the Aleutian Islands subarea and Bogoslof District pollock TAC will be allocated to a CDQ reserve unless the Aleutian Islands subarea and/or Bogoslof District is closed to directed fishing for pollock by regulation. If the Aleutian Islands subarea and/or Bogoslof District is closed to directed fishing for pollock by regulation, then no pollock CDQ reserve will be established for those areas and incidental harvest of pollock by CDQ groups will accrue against the incidental catch allowance for pollock established under § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(1).

(b) Halibut CDQ reserve.

(1) NMFS will annually withhold from IFQ allocation the proportions of the halibut catch limit that are specified in paragraph (b) of this section for use as a CDQ reserve.

(2) Portions of the CDQ for each specified IPHC regulatory area may be allocated for the exclusive use of an eligible Western Alaska community or group of communities in accordance with a CDP approved by the Governor in consultation with the Council and approved by NMFS.

(3) The proportions of the halibut catch limit annually withheld for the halibut CDQ program, exclusive of issued QS, and the eligible communities for which they shall be made available are as follows

for each IPHC regulatory area (see Figure 15 to this part):

(i) Area 4B. In IPHC regulatory area 4B, 20 percent of the annual halibut quota shall be made available to eligible communities physically located in, or proximate to, this regulatory area.

(ii) Area 4C. In IPHC regulatory area 4C, 50 percent of the halibut quota shall be made available to eligible communities physically located in IPHC regulatory area 4C.

(iii) Area 4D. In IPHC regulatory area 4D, 30 percent of the annual halibut quota shall be made available to eligible communities located in, or proximate to, IPHC regulatory areas 4D and 4E.

(iv) Area 4E. In IPHC regulatory area 4E, 100 percent of the halibut quota shall be made available to eligible communities located in, or proximate to, IPHC regulatory area 4E. A fishing trip limit of 10,000 lb (4.54 mt) applies to halibut CDQ harvested through September 1.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "proximate to" an IPHC regulatory area means within 10 nm from the point where the boundary of the IPHC regulatory area intersects land.

(c) Groundfish CDQ reserves.

(See § 679.20(b)(1)(iii))

(d) Crab CDQ reserves.

For those king and Tanner crab species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area that have a guideline harvest level specified by the State of Alaska, 7.5 percent of the annual guideline harvest level for each fishery is apportioned to a crab CDQ reserve.

(e) PSQ reserve.

(See § 679.21(e)(1)(i) and (e)(2)(ii)).

(f) Management of the Groundfish CDQ Reserves.

(1) Groundfish CDQ reserves allocated among CDQ groups.

(i) Except as limited by paragraph (f)(2) of this section, the groundfish CDQ reserves are apportioned among CDQ groups using percentage allocations approved by NMFS under § 679.30(d).

(ii) If the groundfish harvest specifications required by § 679.20(c) change the species comprising a TAC category or change a TAC category by combining or splitting management areas, then the CDQ percentage allocations approved by NMFS for the original TAC category will apply to any new categories.

(iii) A CDQ group is prohibited by § 679.7(d)(5) from exceeding an annual groundfish CDQ amount allocated to it.

(iv) NMFS may specify limitations or prohibitions to prevent overfishing of any BSAI groundfish species, including measures specific to groundfish CDQ species allocated among CDQ groups (see § 679.20(d)(3)).

(2) Groundfish CDQ reserves not allocated among CDQ groups.

(i) The “other species” CDQ reserve, or individual species that comprise the “other species” CDQ reserve, will not be allocated among CDQ groups.

(ii) Groundfish CDQ reserves not allocated among CDQ groups will be managed at the CDQ reserve level under general limitations at § 679.20(d).